COMPLETE LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-7 (canceled)

Claim 8 (currently amended): A performance data editing method for a computer system containing a display, comprising the steps of:

controlling the computer system to display at least one layer on a screen of the display;

attaching an execution icon corresponding to execution-related data onto the layer, wherein the execution-related data constructs a part of performance data;

allowing the execution icon of the layer to move in response to an operation of a user of the computer system;

detecting an event in which the execution icon is moved outside of a prescribed display area; and

upon detection of the event, deleting the execution-related data corresponding to the execution icon from the performance data,

wherein said attached execution icon represents execution-related data for adding a predetermined type of articulation to said at least one layer, and

wherein said step of attaching the execution icon causes the corresponding execution-related data to be incorporated into the performance data being edited.

Claims 9-16 (canceled)

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Claim 17 (currently amended): A performance data editing apparatus containing a display comprising:

a controller for displaying at least one layer on a screen of the display;

an operator being operated by a user for attaching an execution icon corresponding to execution-related data onto the layer and for moving the execution icon of the layer, wherein the execution-related data constructs a part of performance data;

a detector for detecting an event in which the execution icon is moved outside of a prescribed display area; and

a delete executor for upon detection of the event, deleting the execution-related data corresponding to the execution icon from the performance data,

wherein said attached execution icon represents execution-related data for adding a predetermined type of articulation to said at least one layer, and

wherein the attachment of the execution icon causes the corresponding execution-related data to be incorporated into the performance data being edited.

Claims 18-22 (canceled)

Claim 23 (currently amended): A ~~machine-readable media storing data and programs that cause~~computer-readable medium encoded with a computer program for causing a computer system ~~containing~~ having a display ~~for performing~~to perform a performance data editing method comprising the steps of:

controlling the computer system to display at least one layer on a screen of the display;

attaching an execution icon corresponding to execution-related data onto the layer, wherein the execution-related data constructs a part of performance data;

allowing the execution icon of the layer to move in response to an operation of a user of the computer system;

detecting an event in which the execution icon is moved outside of a prescribed display area; and

upon detection of the event, deleting the execution-related data corresponding to the execution icon from the performance data,

wherein said attached execution icon represents execution-related data for adding a predetermined type of articulation to said at least one layer, and

wherein said step of attaching the execution icon causes the corresponding execution-related data to be incorporated into the performance data being edited.

Claims 24-25 (canceled)

Claim 26 (previously presented): The performance data editing method according to claim 8, wherein one or plural execution icons are arranged in the layer in a direction from the left to the right on the display screen in accordance with progress of the performance data.

Claim 27 (previously presented): The performance data editing method according to claim 8, wherein the layer is displayed as an execution icon layer corresponding to the execution-related data.

Claim 28 (previously presented): The performance data editing method according to claim 27, wherein the execution icon layer contains at least one of a tempo icon layer, a dynamics icon layer, a joint icon layer, a modulation icon layer, an accent icon layer, an attack icon layer, and a release icon layer.

Claim 29 (previously presented): The performance data editing method according to claim 8, wherein when the execution icon attached to the layer is edited, edited content is reflected onto the performance data.

Claims 30-33 (canceled)